

I am a Milford resident, and Milford was one of the first communities to get the new meters in early 2011. At the time I did not know anything about the negative effects of these meters, and didn't pay much attention to the slick four-color advertisement/notice we received with our DTE bill. I never saw the installers, and since the meter is on a side of the house that I don't have to walk past very often, I didn't even know exactly when it was installed. No one from DTE ever asked my husband or me if we wanted it, but if someone had, I would have done a little homework and refused. Instead, shortly after we got our new meter, I started to experience heart palpitations and arrhythmia at night. I developed insomnia, which I initially thought was just because I was worried about my heart. I also had a high-pitched ringing in my ears. Again, I thought this might be due to the heart arrhythmia.

Over the course of the next couple of years, I sought the help of three different doctors. None of them were able to figure out what was wrong, and all of tests given at the doctors' offices came back normal. We thought the strange symptoms might be related to menopause, though all of my hormonal tests came back normal. Therefore, I have no documentation from a medical doctor to give you today.

Because I was not sleeping well in my own bed, I sometimes would try to fall asleep in other rooms and eventually discovered that certain places in my house were more conducive to me falling asleep and others were not. I tried the couch, the basement, even the foyer in front of my front door. One night as I was trying but not succeeding to fall asleep in a walk-in closet, I noticed that my "arrhythmia" actually had a rhythm. I later learned that it was the interval of the pulsed wifi on my smart meter. I also found, finally, that all my symptoms went away if I slept away from my home. It was at this point that I ran across information about smart meters and how their pulsed wifi transmission affects the rhythm of the human heart. Now my weird symptoms made sense and had a traceable cause. I called DTE to get the meter off of my home and was told that for an initial \$69 fee and monthly fee for the rest of my life, I could get the smart meter turned off and have a manual reading done. I agreed, as I was desperate and did not think I had any alternative. It took almost three months for my "opt-out" to start. (I have since learned that the meter still gives off signals to communicate with neighboring smart meters.)

I was very lucky that my sister, who is a Florida resident, had a summer cottage in Highland, Michigan that did not have a smart meter. As she rents her furniture for the summer, last fall and early winter, I slept in a sleeping bag on her floor. Now I am able to sleep in my own home under an expensive mesh canopy that shields me from wifi transmissions throughout the night. I wonder what those who don't have the money to opt-out and buy the \$1000 canopy would do.

Just last week I received a letter from DTE informing me that my electrical bill will be high next month because the last few months' charges were based on estimations rather than actual readings. I will be calling DTE to protest and wonder what I am being charged \$9 a month for!

This imposition of a meter that I did not ask for, nor want, that is hurting my health and now costs me money to turn off is unacceptable. I want my old analog meter back. I object to being charged for an "opt-out" that still transmits wifi signals, especially when I know there are folks that can't afford the luxury of opting out of an unhealthy "smart" meter.